

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to compel its stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary shortly before the election is not only inimical to the public interest but a clear example of the adverse effects of media consolidation.

Although Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest, its decision to compel its stations to air the aforementioned contravenes its public interest obligations. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.